Alternative Service Learning Spring Break 2005

This week was designed for middle and high school students that will not be traveling for the week and are looking for constructive activities to participate in. Please feel free to sign up for as many of these projects as you would like.

For more information and/or to register for a specific project, please contact Nadji Kirby at 240-777-2614 or nadji.kirby@montgomerycountymd.gov

Monday, March 28

10am-3pm, Menare Foundation Button Farm Spring Clean Week, Min. age 12

This is the future site of The Menare Foundation's living history farm. Volunteers will help with site cleanup, landscaping, gardening, trail clearing, painting and general cleaning and office organizing. Please bring work clothes, (long pants, not shorts) and shoes or boots that can get muddy or wet in case of rain.

Tuesday, March 29

10am-12pm, Hospice Caring (Gaithersburg) "Spring Cleaning," Min age 13, max 10 volunteers

Hospice offers caring programs and services to any Montgomery County resident who is facing a life-threatening illness or is grieving the loss of a loved one, and provides these services at no cost to the patients or their families. Volunteers are needed to do general office clean up, wash windows, etc.

10am – 1pm, **Books, Bears, & Bonnets** Storage Room Organization, Min. age 15

Books, Bears, & Bonnets is dedicated to bringing caring gifts, thoughts and information to individuals with cancer and other life threatening illnesses. Come help with their storage room organization project. Volunteers will help re-organize cartons of books, bears, boxes, hats, etc. Some of the work will involve moving and lifting cartons.

1pm-3pm, Croydon Creek Nature Center "Streamside Cleanup", Min. age 12, max 10 volunteers

Come help promote and enhance your knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of one of our local natural resources by picking up and removing debris from walktrails and streamside. Volunteers should wear long pants, long sleeve shirts, and shoes that can get dirty. Supplies will be provided.

Wednesday, March 30

9am-12pm, Interfaith Clothing Center Gaithersburg, Min age 13, max 8 volunteers

Under the auspices of Community Ministry of Montgomery County, the Interfaith Clothing Center serves thousands of families a year distributing donated clothing, household goods and school supplies free of charge to low-income residents of Montgomery County.

9am-11:30am, Assembling Picnic Tables with MNCPPC-MC, Min. age 13, max 6 volunteers

Help assemble new picnic tables that will be placed in parks in the Martin Luther King Jr. area. These parks serve a diverse population of Latino, African Americans, Hispanic, Asian, and Caucasian people from low to middle income levels. Tools and pizza will be provided!

1pm-3pm, Croydon Creek Nature Center "Streamside Cleanup", Min. age 12, max 10 volunteers

Thursday, March 31

9am-11:30am, Meals on Wheels - Takoma Park, Min. age 13, max 8 volunteers

Help prepare and package meals for homebound, primarily aged seniors.

9am-4pm, Maryvale Elementary School, Min. age 12

Come work with elementary aged students to help install garden areas at Maryvale Elementary School. You can come any time or the entire time. You should wear old clothes, no open toed shoes or flip-flops because you will get dirty! Bring a bag lunch, garden gloves and tools if you have any. All are welcome. Please contact Maizie Cummings at hasselsend@juno.com or 301-251-1628.

1pm-3:30pm, Interfaith Clothing Center Rockville, Min. age 13, spaces limited

Sort and organize clothes and other household goods for distribution to low income families

Please contact Mike Glazier at 301-348-7348 or mike@jypi.org

2:30pm-4pm, "Arts and Crafts", come make Hero Badges for the Holy Cross Pediatric Unit and make bookmarks and cards for kids with cancer for Books, Bears, and Bonnets, Min. age 10, max 30 volunteers

Friday, April 1

10:30am-1:30pm, BAPA Imagination Stage, Min. age 14, max 4 volunteers

Usher, take tickets, hand out programs, and seat patrons prior to the "Petite Rouge" show and assist with gift cards and café sales during intermission and after the show.

Additional Opportunities and Activities During Spring Break (Please contact agency directly)

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society (Washington DC), welcomes volunteers to help with various fun and interesting projects to prepare for their MS Walk on April 9th and 10th. Volunteers are needed to help mail our registration packets, fold T-Shirts, organize event supplies, make signs, and much, much more! For more information and to sign up for a time to help out, please contact Maureen Divine at mdevine@msandyou.org or at 202-296-5363. The office is also able to accommodate groups of 10-15.

Adventure Theater in Glen Echo, MD will have various workshops running from March 28-April 1. There are 2 workshops conducted each day. One session will run from 9:30am–12:30pm and the other from 1:00pm–4:00pm. Each workshop costs \$40.00 and are conducted by master teachers with particular expertise. Some of the workshops include, Actors and Acting, Writing Song Lyrics, American Idol, The Magic of Puppetry and One Singular Sensation in Dance. For more information and to register, please call 301-320-5331. You can also visit their website at www.adventuretheater.org for more information and to download an application.

The African Immigrant and Refugee Foundation needs volunteers to file, scan pictures and put them in the organizations's website as well as entering data/resources in the computer database. For more information, please contact Wanjiru Kamau at 301-593-0241.

BAPA's Imagination Stage will need volunteers to help with data entry, filing, organizing, making copies, and creating labels. They are also in need of a few high school juniors or seniors to help out with their spring break camp for kids. To get more information and to volunteer, please contact Erin Watkins at volunteers@imaginationstage.org or at 301-280-1697.

The CHI Centers Adult Program at Tenbrook is seeking volunteers to assist instructors with arts and crafts, meal preparation, hand-over-hand activities and basic social interaction. Volunteers are also needed to answer phones and do some light typing. For more information and to volunteer, please contact Mamie Price at 301-593-8822.

The Anxiety Disorder Association of America can use volunteers 13 years and older to help with mailings and other general office work. For more information, please contact Clare Dell 'Olio at cdellolio@adaa.org or at 240-485-1032.

In partnership with the **Girl Scouts, the Department of Recreation** will have Spring Break Camp Diva at Coffield Community Center and the Long Branch Community Center. Quality volunteers, ages 14 and older are needed to be helpers or camp aides throughout the week. The camps will run from Tuesday, March 29 through Friday, April 1 from 9:00am to 3:00pm daily. For information on volunteering or attending the camp (ages 14 and under), please contact Shannon Babe at 202-237-1670 ext. 218 or Erin Taylor at 202-237-1670 ext. 284. Boys are welcome – they will have one boys' unit at each camp site.

The American Red Cross of the National Capital Area will be offering a Volunteer Orientation specifically directed towards Youth Volunteer Opportunities on March 30th from 10:00am to 11:00am at their Montgomery County Office. The American Red Cross Youth Services Director will be in attendance to recruit youth for their currently available Youth Programs. To register for the orientation, please contact Sue Woelfel at 301-628-0091.

Additional Spring Break Opportunities and Activities During Spring Break Continued

Oakley Cabin, a 19th century African American historic site will be open for tours beginning Saturday, April 2 from Noon – 4:00pm and continuing every Saturday through October. The 1820's slave cabin is furnished for the 1890's period. For more information on visiting or volunteering to give tours, and register and supervise visitors, please call 301-258-4044.

The Montgomery County Public Defender's Office welcomes volunteers that could help them with cataloging of files or other date entry responsibilities. As a volunteer, you would have a chance to view court cases in both the criminal and traffic courts at both the District and Circuit Court levels. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Nadji Kirby at nadji.kirby@montgomerycountymd.gov or at 240-777-2614.

Identity and organization which seeks to prepare the next generation of Latino leaders through strategic, sustainable and culturally appropriate youth development initiatives and outreach programs dealing with education, healthcare and empowerment welcomes volunteers to assist with filing, copying and other administrative tasks. Regular hours are 9:00am-6:00pm. If youth speak Spanish that is a plus! For more information or to volunteer, please contact Candace Kattar at ckattar@identity.ws or 301-963-5900 ext. 12.

The US Capitol Historical Society can use office assistance from high school students. Volunteers projects include preparing mailings, data entry, and running errands in the Capitol complex. Opportunities include visits in the Capitol Building and learning bout the Congress and US history, as well as a chance to gain office experience. For more information and to volunteer, please contact Steve Livengood at slivengood@uschs.org or 202-543-8919 ext. 17.

The Department of Recreation East Region will have drop in activities as usual at community centers under the gym use fee guidelines. This includes basketball, volleyball, table tennis and badminton at various times throughout the week. Game rooms are also available at no cost. Some centers are organizing a basketball tournament. High school aged students should contact their closest community center for more information.

"Take Pride in our Potomac: It starts in Your Backyard!" is this year's theme for the Potomac River Watershed Clean-up day. **Montgomery Parks** are in the very "backyard" of the Potomac River, so why don't you get a group together or join one of theirs to help pick up the trash and debris along the streams that make up the watershed. The Parks office will offer you advice and supplies to make your event successful. Please call 301-495-2504 to sign up.